WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. An isolated nucleic acid encoding an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

3. The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 2, which comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 2.

5. A host cell comprising the expression vector of Claim 4.

6. A method for producing an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, which comprises the steps of:

(1) culturing the host cell of Claim 5 under a condition suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and

(2) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.

7. An antibody specifically binding to the polypeptide of Claim 1.

8. The antibody of Claim 7 is a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody.

9. A method for detecting the presence of an isolated nucleic acid encoding an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 in a mammal, which comprises the steps of:

(1) extracting total RNA from a sample obtained from the mammal;

(2) amplifying the RNA by reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) to obtain a cDNA sample; and

(3) detecting whether the nucleic acid is obtained.

10. The method of Claim 9, which is useful in diagnosing T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma.

11. The method of Claim 9 further comprising the step of detecting the amount of the amplified cDNA sample.

12. A method for detecting the presence of an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 in a mammal, which comprises the steps of contacting the antibody of Claim 7 with protein samples extracted from the mammal, and detecting whether an antibody-antigen complex is formed.

13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of detecting the amount of the antibody-antigen complex.

14. The method of Claim 12, wherein the antibody-antigen complex is detected by Western blot approach.

15. The method of Claim 12, which is useful in diagnosing T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma.